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SUBJECT: Financial Turmoil: Limited Impact on Thailand

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11. (U) Econoff passed reftel points to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Commerce, and Finance Ministry (FinMin) on October 3. According to Director General Krit Kraichitti of the MFA's Department of International Economic Affairs, his Department's Division of International Economic Policy headed by Director (Mrs.) Chulamanee Chartsuwan is the focal point for the Financing for Development (FfD). According to FinMin Permanent Secretary Suparut Kawatkul, the FinMin's Fiscal Policy Office, led by Director General Somchai Sujjapongse is the other focal point for FfD in the Thai government. According to the MFA, the Ministry of Commerce has no role in the issue.

12. (SBU) Key contacts (above) in both the MFA and FinMin stated they are aware of the FfD conference in November. The MFA is in the process of preparing to brief Prime Minister Somchai on the FfD issue and noted it will convey our demarche/points in the briefing. The MFA hopes the Prime Minister will assign Deputy Prime Minister Olarn Chaipravat to attend the conference, accompanied by DG Krit and Director Chulamanee. FinMin DG Somchai noted the RTG is facing budget constraints that may determine whether it can, in actuality, send an official(s) to attend the conference but that he would likely travel should funding be available.